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President's Newsletter

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President's Newsletter: September 2013

An Evening with Laura Bush



I hope you will make plans to join us on Sept. 17 at 7 p.m. in Hanner Fieldhouse, when Georgia Southern welcomes former first lady Laura Bush as part of the University's Leadership Lecture Series. For decades, Mrs. Bush has championed key issues in the fields of education, health care and human rights, and launched groundbreaking programs in the U.S. and abroad. As the chair of the Woman's Initiative at the George W. Bush Institute, Mrs. Bush continues her work on global health care innovations, empowering women in emerging democracies, education reform and supporting the men and women who have served in America's military.

Tickets are free and available on a first come, first served basis, but are not available at the door the evening of the event. Ticket distribution is available on these dates: Students, Sept. 3-10 in the Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement, Russell Union; Faculty and staff, Sept. 5-6 in the Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement, Russell Union; and Community members, Sept. 9-10 at the Hanner Fieldhouse box office, the Georgia Southern City Campus and the Coastal Georgia Center in Savannah.

Biological Sciences Building



Last week, a new era in scientific learning and teaching got underway with the official ribbon-cutting for Georgia Southern's new Biological Sciences Building on Forest Drive. The 158,000-square-foot state-of-the-art facility is southeast Georgia's most comprehensive center for biological science education and research. The building houses five active-learning classrooms, 10 teaching labs and 15 research labs that will be used by more than 1,300 undergraduate and graduate biology students. Along with members of the University community, Sen. Jack Hill and State Reps. Jan Tankersley and Butch Parrish and Jon Burns were also on hand for this historic occasion. We are appreciative of their continued support and commitment to making the Biological Sciences Building a reality.

[Read more »](#)

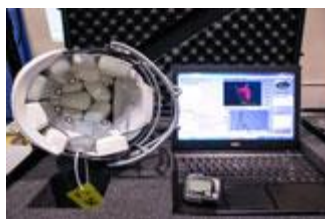
[Click here to see video from this event.](#)

Day Six Pep Rally Welcomes New Students



A large crowd of students, faculty, staff and alumni celebrated Georgia Southern's annual 'Day One' tradition this year on 'Day Six' after a heavy rain postponed the pep rally after the first day of classes. The newest members of the Eagle Nation learned Georgia Southern traditions and cheers during the pep rally and watched Freedom soar over Paulson Stadium. Also on hand were the Southern Pride Marching Band as well as our mascot Gus. This year, country singer/songwriter and alumnus Eric Lee Bedingfield entertained the crowd.

Georgia Southern Research Airs on NBC's "Nightly News"



Georgia Southern's research activities were brought into the national spotlight recently when a segment on concussion research aired on a segment of NBC's "Nightly News." University researchers are working with the Eagles football team and have equipped 40 helmets with the Riddell Helmet Impact Telemetry System (HITS). Each helmet has six sensors inside that measure each hit to the head during practices and games, and these measurements are then transmitted to a laptop computer being monitored on the sidelines. Armed with this data, our athletic trainers can now identify players, in real time, that have received an impact to the head potentially leading to a concussion. Georgia Southern is the only collegiate football team in the state to use the HITS.

[Click here to see video of this story.](#)

New Dining Facilities Open on Campus



Georgia Southern truly represents success in motion! In addition to the Biological Sciences Building, we also recently celebrated the grand opening of two dining facilities: Dining Commons (formerly Landrum) and Lakeside Dining Commons. These multi-million dollar construction and renovation projects are a testament to the University's growth as well as our continued mission of serving our students, who are at the forefront of everything Georgia Southern does.

Lakeside Dining Commons (formerly Lakeside Café) was completely renovated and has doubled in size to serve more than 500 customers with seven different stand-alone eateries. Dining Commons is Georgia Southern's new main dining facility and home to the Eagle Card Center and Postal and Printing Services. The structure replaces the former Landrum Center which served the University community from 1966 to 2012. The 75,000-square-foot facility seats 1,100 customers and includes seven individual eateries.

During your next visit to campus, I hope you will stop by for a meal and a tour of our new dining facilities as well as the Biological Sciences Building.

[Click here to see video from this event.](#)

A Day for Southern



Last week, faculty and staff volunteers celebrated the kickoff of our 40th annual on-campus 'A Day for Southern' campaign. America Minc and Dr. Stephen Rossi, our campus co-chairs, reminded us why it is important to support the campaign: our students. As part of the program, student scholarship recipients Lainey Brown and Manrey Saint-Amour, shared personal stories about the impact of the campaign and the educational opportunities and support they have received as a result of 'A Day for Southern.' I am especially excited about the kickoff of the community campaign phase of 'A Day for Southern' on Sept. 10, and am grateful for the support of Statesboro-Bulloch County residents, businesses and alumni. Through ongoing support, 'A Day for Southern' has raised more than one million dollars annually since 1998.

[Click here to see video from this event.](#)

ON THE CALENDAR

Sept. 7: Georgia Southern Football vs. St. Francis (Pa.), 6 p.m., Paulson Stadium

Sept. 14: i2STEMe Festival, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Nessmith-Lane Conference Center

Sept. 14: Georgia Southern Football @Wofford

Sept. 17: An Evening with Laura Bush, 7 p.m., Hanner Fieldhouse

Sept. 24, 26: America's Music: A Film History of Our Popular Music from Blues to Bluegrass to Broadway, 7 to 9 p.m., Averitt Center for the Arts

Sept. 26: Broadway Boys, 7:30 p.m., Opening Night at the Performing Arts Center

Sept. 27: 1906 Society Gala

Sept. 27-28: Fall Family Weekend

Sept. 28: Georgia Southern Football vs. Chattanooga, 6 p.m., Paulson Stadium

Oct. 5: Georgia Southern Football @Samford

For additional information about other events taking place this month, please check the below calendars:

- For more information on University events, please visit the [University Calendar](#).
- For information on athletics events, please visit: [GSeagles.com](#).

